

LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

VOL. 7, NO. 19

264

MAY 15, 1956

Huge RWDSU Delegation Asks Congress to Extend Protection of Minimum Wage Law at this Session



More than 1000 RWDSU delegates converged on Washington, D.C. to ask their Congressmen to extend coverage of the wage law to retail workers. I-S group of 34 was headed by VP Phil Hoffstein.

Strike Unity Set Shining Example; Union's Prestige At All-Time High

The old saying has it that we often can't see the forest because of the trees. The same might be said about the difficulties of fully appreciating what we have done, because we are so completely involved in doing it that we can't take the time to marvel.

I'm speaking, of course, about our recent and wonderful demonstration of unity and strength. And only now, as the tension that gripped all of us begins to relax, can I look with fullest appreciation at what took place.

Consider the older members—men and women already past (or rapidly nearing) the retirement age—who dedicated themselves to picketlines. Why, these are people, if they were economically able, would certainly have already claimed their right to leisure.

And why did they push themselves beyond the limits of endurance? "Because we belong here," they said. "Because this is the way to secure the future. Because this is our Union, and everything we have we owe to local I-S. This is a labor of love!"

The Women!

Men have frequently made the mistake of underestimating the power of a woman. But 80 percent

of our members are women—and they showed their strength, their spirit and their determination.

The women were dauntless and tireless as they carried out the many essential functions of a successful strike—both on the picketlines and on the various committees that helped guarantee our smooth and efficient operation.

The tragic and untimely death of Parkchester's Emma Daly symbolizes the unflagging devotion the women of Local I-S brought to the fight for more security and a better life.

But none of this is designed to detract in the slightest degree from the role of our men who gave strength to the picketlines throughout the days and then faced the long nights in an effort to prevent the company from using scabs.

It was the unity of all—men and women, young and old, who made our victory possible. From the newest Union member to the oldest there was a common interest in allowing nothing to divide or divert us.

Our Union has long enjoyed respect and admiration throughout the labor movement. Our recent fight and victory has raised our prestige to its all time high.

Enemies of labor have tried to convince workers that they will lose their individuality if they join a union. They try to peddle the idea that if you are worth your salt your merits will be recognized and that you will get ahead.

We know differently. We know that only the persistent efforts of our Union have made a substantial contribution towards making order out of chaos with regard to promotions, negotiated and automatic wage increases and numerous other gains. And we know that Macy's (or any other large company) if left to itself, will not give a worker the reward his skills and labor justly earn.

The entire history of our American labor movement reveals that progress has been made only through struggle. Countless men and women have given their lives to earn for labor a respected place in the community. Millions of others, through unity on the picketlines have helped advance us to where we now stand.

We can be genuinely proud of the contribution we have all made to our own well-being and to the great tradition of which we are a part.

More than 1,000 members of the RWDSU, including a contingent of 34 I-S'ers led by Vice President Phil Hoffstein, joined forces in Washington, D. C. on Wednesday, May 2nd in an effort to convince Congress of the urgent need to extend the protection of the Fair Labor standards Act (Minimum

Wage and Hour) to an estimated nine million additional workers, including those employed in retail and department stores.

The delegates, headed by RWDSU President Max Greenberg, came from 22 states, helped to highlight the AFL-CIO position that extension of the minimum wage and hour provisions constituted labor's prime objective at this session of the Congress.

Elections Near, PAC Fund Drive Set For June

With major attention already centered on the coming national and Congressional elections the need for political action funds is becoming pressing.

At the suggestion of top AFL-CIO leadership, most unions conducted their fund-raising drives during the month of April. Local I-S, in the midst of the strike, postponed its campaign until June.

COPE, the Committee on Political Education, is the unified labor body replacing CIO's Political Action Committee and the AFL's Labor's League for Political Education.

Funds contributed to COPE will be used on a non-partisan basis to support the candidacies of politicians who have either a record or a platform favorable to labor.

Part of the total contributed will be sent to national COPE, part will go to the International and part will remain in the hands of Local I-S.

With many Congressional campaigns important to labor shaping up here in New York the need for a well-financed labor campaign is urgent.

Shop Stewards will receive the COPE collection books by mail and will canvass their departments. The dollar you give can help elect a friend instead of a foe. Be sure to give!

Democracy in Action

Vice President Hoffstein described the huge delegation as "a tremendous demonstration of the strength of democracy in action." He said, "The right of petition is one of our basic rights as Americans. We use that right when we engage in such political and economic actions as this. Labor is alive to both its rights and responsibilities and, in delegation of this kind, clearly demonstrates its ability to act in the interests of its members and the country as whole."

Chairman Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) of the Senate Labor subcommittee, met with a delegation headed by President Greenberg and pledged that legislation extending coverage of the law is the "number 1 priority" before his committee. He expressed the hope that the Administration would clarify its position at hearings now being held.

Earlier, at a briefing session in the Willard Hotel, the delegates heard New York's Senator Herbert H. Lehman urge extension of coverage to an additional nine million workers.

Lehman, who is a member of the Senate Labor Committee told the assembled delegates that, "I fully share your objectives" and added that he also agreed with organized labor that the minimum wage should be \$1.25 an hour instead of the \$1 voted last year.

Major opposition to extension of the law is coming from the American Retail Federation, which is generally regarded as one of the

(Continued on page 2)



If you . . .
your husband
or wife . . .
or children
under 18 . . .

or parents

NEED BLOOD
FROM THE BLOOD BANK

all you have to do is

CALL WA 4-4540

And Rest Assured That
Local I-S Will Do the Rest

GIVE TO THE BLOOD BANK — THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN!

BRANCH STORE NEWS

FLATBUSH



Rose Nagler

VICTORY . . . We can all look back with pride at the solidarity we displayed in the strike, on the picketlines and in the conduct of the strike. True, we did not win everything we sought—but who does in bargaining or in a strike? However, we won most of our major demands, and what is more important, we repelled Macy's attempt to weaken our contract, and thereby our Union. Our Union has come out stronger than ever. We all have more now than we had before. We can all be proud of our part in maintaining the picketlines and the high morale . . . Special commendation must go to our Flatbush strike leaders, headed by Freda Pariser and ably assisted by Dorothy Lichtenstein and Tony Biondo. The Shop Stewards also did yeoman service, but space does not allow the mention of all their names . . . There are some bitter memories, naturally, left by the struggle. There were a few stinkers in the ranks of the non-union workers. But fortunately they were few. All we can say to them is that they have to live with themselves and their perfidy. We who struck walk with our heads up. Can they? . . . A special word of praise for the only arrest victim of the strike—Mrs. Fay Mugavero. We are all sorry for her rough experience, but we are all proud of her!

JAMAICA

Welcome back from the sick list: Edna Nerenberg (J4) and Marcia Woodruff (also J4). Irene Hulton (Dresses) and Theo Balaban (J7) are still out ill. Hope you gals get back real soon . . . Alice Donohue (J15) our Welfare Board representative, is getting ready for the big day. Her son, Raymond, is getting married on May 19th . . . Ann Smith (J4) and Frances Dahl (J15) took an early vacation and fly to Florida to soak up some sunshine. (Can't hardly get any of that stuff around here!) . . . Mr. Frank from the Beauty Salon wants to thank all his union friends for their show of appreciation for his untiring efforts while we were on strike. Frank said he could not have accomplished what he did without the cooperation of Fran's Luncheonette, Folde's Restaurant or the Franklin Hotel . . . Lillian Campbell (dresses) just became a grandmother for the first time. We have some of the most glamorous grandmas imaginable in Local 1-S. Some sharp grandpas, too! . . . A big bouquet is in order to everyone here in Jamaica for the splendid cooperation and unity shown during our two week battle. It was, in every sense of the words, a job well done. The whole atmosphere is better than it ever was. We now know, out of our experience, that we can and do stick together—and that out of that comes the kind of victory we're all so proud of. It was great—and it was great only because each and every one of us contributed to it!

PARKCHESTER



Fay Abbate

Congratulations to Al Smith, Katherine Hallihan and Andy Fellicia for the fine job they did in the course of our great and victorious strike. They were terrific! . . . Lillian Danuff (P5) a grandmother for the third time. Her daughter, Helen recently gave birth to a little Nancy in Paris. . . . Ann Sullivan (P8) pleased with the marriage of her son Ronald on May 5. . . . Two mothers-in-law in the making—Ann Zazoli's daughter, Joy, and Yetta Nackman's son Ronald both soon to wed (not each other). . . . Mac Bogus, owner of Luncheonette Duke is to be sincerely thanked for the many breakfasts he served our pickets. . . . Is that certain something they are saying about a certain red head in the Men's Shop TRUE? . . . Margie Koch (P10) is out ill. Hope to see you soon, Marge. . . . Condolences to Kaye Nespor of (P10) on the loss of her Aunt. . . . A silent prayer in memory of Emma Daly. Her death came as a shock to all of us She is missed.

WHITE PLAINS

Congratulations are most certainly in order for the men and women who headed our Strike Committees and helped guarantee that the wheels kept turning. Bob Phillips and Hank Young, who headed the Record and Clerical, Victor Mangiacapra and Jerry Klein who ran our Headquarters, Gus Selino, Picket Captain, Mamie Branch who was responsible for the food, Tom Melella for Procurement and Frances Petluck for Welfare. Our Store Committee of Jim Heleringer, Fred Ernst and Helen Ruderman gave outstanding leadership during the entire strike. . . . There is real joy over our victory—which we owe to the splendid support just about everyone gave. The spirit was wonderful! . . . The only question that remains is what is to be done with the few who scabbed. The answer should be coming soon—and we can be sure that those who lacked respect for their co-workers and themselves will be taught a lesson in the meaning of unity and trade unionism!

Raises Coming!

The financial fruits of our victory will be visible early in June. The General Wage Increase (applicable to all those who had 30 days of Macy's service to their credit as of April 23, 1956) will go into pay envelopes for the salary period ending June 9th.

This means that the increase will actually be received on the pay days of Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, June 13, 14 or 15th.

Retroactive pay, at the rate of \$3 a week back to February 1st, 1956 (or the date on which you had completed 30 days of service, if it was before April 23rd) will be in the envelopes for the pay period ending June 23rd.

This means that the lump sum retroactive payment will be received on the pay days of Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, June 27, 28 or 28th.

Board Names Committee to Deal With Scabs; Urges City Organizing Drive

Organizing

Raising again a subject which has been a topic of discussion on many previous occasions, President Kovenetsky once more urged the Board to give serious consideration to the need for, and possibilities of, an intensive organizing effort by Local 1-S.

Citing the large number of workers who are unorganized in the immediate area, the 1-S leader suggested that a drive could be carried out by members willing to give at least part of their days off to the job of winning new friends and members to Local 1-S.

It was also felt that the Local 1-S victory on the picketlines had provided new stimulus to the overall organizing of the unorganized and should serve to make any 1-Sers job of organizing especially easy.

It was generally agreed that all other unions were welcome to as much of the goodwill Local 1-S has created as they could sign up, but it was also agreed that it was desirable for Local 1-S to reap its fullest victory by stepping up its plans for organizing.

D. C. Delegation

President Sam Kovenetsky reviewed labor's fight in 1955 to win a minimum wage of \$1 an hour. He told the Board that, "though we have won a contractual minimum of more than that amount it would be to our advantage to have our base pay written into a law applicable to department store workers. From this base," he said, "we can then expect to go still further ahead in raising our minimums."

Delegates Urge Congress...

(Continued from page 1)

most powerful lobbies in Washington. The ARF represents 700,000 retail stores throughout the country, and has waged a consistent campaign against all efforts to win protection of the law for employees of their members.

Support Pledged

RWDSU President Greenberg, who was one of the first to testify before the Senate subcommittee when hearings began, recalled to delegates that "last year, the workers in our union put aside our own demand for extended coverage in favor of the drive for a higher minimum wage. We succeeded through our joint efforts in winning \$1. This year we hope and expect to have the support of all organized labor in our drive to win extended coverage."

The delegates were assured by

In support of this, the 1-S leader urged maximum support for the delegation to Washington, D.C. sponsored by the RWDSU. On a motion made by Charles Boyd and seconded by Neil Kuypers, it was agreed to collect as much money as possible and then select as many delegates as could be sent for the money raised. (See Page 1 for story of delegate's lobby.)

Trials

With several trials pending since March, the Board voted to name a Trial Committee to hear various charges, except scabbing, brought against members.

On the Committee are: David Greenberg (7th Floor), Cathryn Hall (7th Floor), Harry Leibowitz (Manufacturing), Marty Lattarulo (Receiving) and Sylvia Temple (DA-CT).

Tire Discount

Vice President Bill Atkinson reported on an offer of a discount plan for auto tires advanced by the General Tire Company. Discounts of 20-30 percent will be made to all members of 1-S, who will receive discount cards signed by President Kovenetsky and a General Tire representative. The cost of printing and mailing the cards is being borne by the tire company as part of the promotion of its product.

The plan is part of the Local 1-S program of seeking savings for its members wherever possible, but it imposes no obligation on either the individual member or the Union.

HELP!

LEGAL CLINIC
SOCIAL SERVICE
COMPENSATION AID

Free of Charge
at the
UNION OFFICE

Every Wednesday
From 5 to 7 P.M.

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

Published Twice Monthly except June, July, August when published monthly by

LOCAL 1-S DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS UNION, RWDSU, AFL-CIO
290 Seventh Avenue
New York 1, N. Y.

President: Sam Kovenetsky

1st Vice Pres.: Philip Hoffstein

2nd Vice Pres.: William Atkinson

Editorial Board

Jerome Harte, Mary Boyd, Marty Lattarulo, Adam Graham, Ceil Curry

Editor: Dick Pastor

Annual Subscription \$1

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office, New York, N. Y.



Talking Shop

By Vice Presidents

Phil Hoffstein

and

Bill Atkinson



THE LOCAL I-S BLOOD BANK was born out of the desperate needs of the ill. Sometimes it was a member, sometimes a husband or wife or a child. In those days, before we put the collecting and distributing of blood on an organized and orderly basis, the Union would receive an urgent appeal for help and would then have to go through the incredible task of trying to get enough volunteers to report to the hospital or blood bank to give their blood to replace that which the patient had already received.

The organized Blood Bank has eliminated the waste of time and the uncertainty. We know that every member who has called on the Blood Bank for help has received it promptly and unstintingly.

WHAT THIS HELP MEANS IN HUMAN TERMS is almost impossible to describe. What does it mean to parents who are told that their child needs one, two, three—or more—pints of blood? There can only be heartache and anxiety for the well-being of the child. But there is also a measure of comfort when the parent who belongs to Local I-S can simply pick up the nearest telephone, call the Union office and ask that the required number of pints of life saving fluid be released. The comfort comes from knowing that the blood will soon be sped to the place where it is to be used—and the regardless of how much may be needed, there will be no charge!

WE DON'T COUNT PENNIES, OR EVEN DOLLARS WHEN emergencies strike. But it sure is good to know that bills aren't piling up at breakneck speed.

The classic case, of course, is still that of the unfortunate Union member who was stricken and, in the course of her treatment and recovery used the blood of more than 100 donors—all at no cost to her except the cost of the telephone calls to Local I-S. But far more typical are the calls for one or two pints. The average price of blood today is \$35 a pint. When the Local I-S Blood Bank supplies the needed replacements the only charge is the hospital fee for administering the transfusion—which is usually \$15 a pint.

MEMBERS OF LOCAL I-S ARE AWARE, however, that there are some hospitals which do not accept blood replacement on a pint-for-pint basis. Our Union has conducted a vigorous campaign against the "gouging" of patients, and is at this time represented on a committee which is conducting the first over-all investigation into the problem.

Until there is a uniform hospital procedure, members of Local I-S are advised to safeguard themselves by either seeking admission into hospitals that accept replacement on a one-for-one basis, or by trying to determine in advance what their blood needs will be and calling the Union to establish credit before the blood is used!

THE BLOOD BANK COMMITTEE has had the difficult job of determining, year after year, just how far the blood on deposit can be expected to go—and, on that basis, who can and who cannot be covered. In the interests of fairness the Committee decided to cover the parents of single members, since our unmarried men and women were at a disadvantage compared with those who were married and had families.

It was felt that the single member who gave a pint of blood was entitled to extend his coverage beyond himself. But it was further decided to limit parents to five pints each, at no charge, since it is a medical fact that older people are the most frequent and heaviest users of blood.

When the Blood Bank year of 1955 was seven months old, the Committee met and agreed that the balance on hand warranted the extension of the Bank's coverage to the parents of married members, too. This was also limited to five points.

AND NOW, UPON COMPLETION of this year's drive, the Committee must once again sit down and decide where the line must be drawn to assure year-round protection for the prime group—the members themselves. It is difficult to forecast the outcome of that discussion, because we do not yet know how many volunteers responded to the call. We can only hope that enough donors rolled up their sleeves to make possible the continued protection of all those now covered.

THE BLOOD BANK, like the Health Plan and the Medical Panel, has proved itself many times over. The fervent thanks and deep gratitude of those whose needs have been met is proof enough that the Bank has an important place in our daily scheme of things. We would hope that it will never be needed, but we know better. We can only say, therefore, that the existence of the Bank is a tribute to the men and women who make it possible, for in this they show again that working together serves the best interest of all.

BLOOD BANK PROTECTION OF FAMILY DEPENDS ON LARGE TURNOUT OF DONORS; DO YOUR SHARE!



Last year, and in years before, donors reported to the Blood Bank to make their contribution to the security of themselves and their families. 1956 drive, now in progress, needs YOUR support.

There is no one who is so all-knowing wise that he can say, "My family will never need blood to help save a life".

That is why wise members of Local I-S (exempts and executives, too) have put their names down on Blood Bank Pledge Sheets and have been rolling up their sleeves.

In Herald Square Tuesday, May 15, Wednesday, May 16, and Friday, May 18 have been designated as the days on which full and part-time pledgees have been scheduled to report to the Blood Bank. Saturday-Onlies have been scheduled for Saturday, May 19th. Flatbush and Parkchester donors will report on May 17th and at Jamaica on May 18th.

Those who neglected to sign a Pledge Sheet may ask their supervisor to be scheduled for time off (with pay) to report to the Blood Bank.

Some of them know from actual experience that giving a pint of blood is absolutely painless. Many who are giving for the first time are just discovering that being a donor to the Local I-S, Macy's Blood Bank is just about the easiest way of providing insurance that you can find.

The Bank has, for several years, provided unlimited protection for the members of Local I-S, their husbands or wives and children under 18 years of age. In addition, the Bank has made up to five pints of blood available for the parents of single members—and a few months ago extended the same coverage to include the parents of all members.

Continued coverage of the parents of married members will be reviewed by the Blood Bank Committee following the completion of this year's drive.

The extent of this year's coverage will be determined by the total number of pints of blood given and the average number of pints used in past years.

Speaking for the Union's members on the Blood Bank Committee, Vice President Phil Hoffstein said, "We all know the value of the Blood Bank—either from the first hand experience of calling on it for aid or from contact with someone who has needed and gotten help.

"There is no charge of any kind for the blood that is given through our bank, nor are there any restrictions on who is eligible for its protection.

"We only urge that every-one report as a donor and let the qualified Red Cross doctors determine your fitness to give. The life the Blood Bank saves may be your own! GIVE!"

Some Questions and Answers On the Terms of New Contract

In the aftermath of our recent negotiations it is most natural that there should be a need for determining exactly where we stand with regard to certain aspects of the agreement.

Some members have asked for clarification of certain specific clauses and a statement regarding their significance. The questions, answers and explanations follow: 1) Where do we stand with regard to the contract provisions which the company wanted changed?

A. First, it should be fully understood that there is absolutely no change in the provision concerning the restrictions on the right of executives to do staff work. This clause was of major concern to all, and it still stands. To guarantee its fullest implementation, the Union is planning to meet with management in an effort to answer questions raised by some executives with regard to the limitations imposed upon them by the contract and to advance fully the Union's interpretation of the clause.

Also maintained in the contract is the provision that pro-rated vacation payments to salary plus commission, salary plus bonus and straight commission workers shall be based on the basic forty hour week. This serves to preserve the most favorable method of computing such payments, although it is not the most common.

Unchanged, too, is the contract

clause barring Macy's from changing the scheduled hours of Part-Timers to suit the convenience of the business.

2) Why wait six months before being able to arbitrate the rate ranges of new jobs that open up?

A. Experience has shown us that the job content of a new job is not fully developed much before six months of working experience. It is to the Union's (and the workers') advantage to know the full content and earning potential of a job before asking an arbitrator to set a rate of pay for it—if there is no agreement between the Union and the company.

3) What is the "Semi-Private" plan in the Health Plan?

A. The "Semi-Private" plan provides for a higher schedule of fees payable to a patient (Union member, husband or wife and children under 18 years of age) for in-hospital medical or surgical care. It also provides a reduced fee for at-home or doctor's office visits, provide that a GHI panel doctor is used.

For example: Under the existing plan the surgical allowance for an appendectomy is \$100. Under the semi-private plan it is \$150. For a tonsil and adenoid operation on a child under 12 the present allowance is \$25, under semi-private it will be \$40.

Before the semi-private plan becomes effective on February 1, 1957 a new Health Plan book will

have been prepared, giving full details.

4) What is the difference between the new clause on Macy's right to cancel overtime and what we had before?

A. In the past there was no provision spelling out the conditions under which Macy's could cancel overtime. The Union had challenged Macy's in a particular case and the arbitrator ruled against the Union. The new clause specifically sets time limits on the company. It says that if you are scheduled to work on your day off Macy's can cancel no later than noon of the day before. If you are scheduled to work beyond your eight hours on any day Macy's can cancel no later than closing hour of the day before you are scheduled. If you are scheduled to work overtime after you have come in on a regular scheduled day, Macy's cannot cancel later than noon of that day. And if you are scheduled to work morning hours that will make your day longer than eight hours, Macy's can cancel no later than 6 o'clock of the day before.

All provisions of the contract apply equally to Herald Square and the Branch Stores (unless there are specific exceptions).

If you have any question regarding the contract, see your Administrator, or send it in to the Union office and you will receive an answer promptly.

MAY

1956

XUM

DO YOU KNOW THAT Dick Whitfield (in the Cafeteria...)

and his wife Ruth recently gave two successful song recitals at Carnegie Hall and are soon to appear at New York's famed Metropolitan Opera House as members of the Negro Opera Company.

Dick started his singing career in the church choir in Corona, Long Island. His grandmother was the church organist and choir director and got him off to a good start.

Ruth, whom Dick describes as an "ideal wife and perfect partner" got her vocal start at the age of five in her Sunday school. Since then she has toured extensively and given many recitals at such distinguished gathering places of the musical elite as Town Hall and Carnegie.

The first Carnegie Hall appearance Dick and Ruth made was on January 15th of this year. They gave a repeat recital on February 12th which was warmly received by the critics.

Highlight of their budding career is their forthcoming debut at the Met on May 27th in the Haitian opera "Ouanga" (pronounced Wong-Ga).

Describing the opera itself, the New York Times wrote that "Ouanga is excellent theatre, and this same effective theatricalism is found in Mr. White's orchestrat-

ed and sophisticated score. . . ."

Full of enthusiasm for the work being done by the National Negro Opera Company, Dick describes it as an organization "devoted to discovering and encouraging young artists and composers and to giving them an opportunity in the field of grand opera". In addition, Dick says, "the company aims at inspiring composers of all ethnic groups to the creation of operatic compositions using the background motif of Negro spirituals and Creole folk songs. Along with these high purposes, the Company seeks to encourage and nurture cultural appreciation necessary to an enjoyment and understanding of opera."

Dick and Ruth have been married a bit more than five years. Dick says, "We're both easy going people and like anything in life that is uplifting to humanity. We have no set pattern", he adds, "but are flexible in our approach to all things that are good."

They love to entertain their friends and Ruth, says Dick, "is a wonderful hostess who goes for fancy teas and oriental foods. A favorite of Ruth's, Dick's—and their guests—is curried chicken and rice.

You can't drop in on them for five minutes without sipping at an



Ruth and Dick Whitfield

exotic cup of oriental tea—and one leaves them wondering whether he has been in an apartment in New York or the "Persian Garden" about which they sing on their program.

Dick has been a member of Local 1-S for more than four years, but makes no bones about looking forward to the time when his singing will be a full time vocation. He and Ruth both feel that their feet are firmly planted on the road of their choosing—thanks to the enthusiastic audience reactions at their recitals and to the commendations of hard-to-please critics.

In spite of the hard work of preparing for the May 27th appearance at the Met, Dick took the recent strike against Macy's right in stride and contributed his share to the victory.

"Right now," he says, "I have two jobs and two responsibilities. I'm doing my best to fulfill my obligations to both of them.

MEMBER ASKS FORMATION OF UNION CHESS CLUB OPEN TO ALL

With the game of chess becoming increasingly popular, 1-S'er Harold Cruse (238 Dept.) suggests the forming of a Union chess club to meet at the Union once a week.

In mind is a club that will welcome amateurs, advanced players and those who are interested in learning the game. Instruction, matches with other unions, and lectures by experts on the technique and history of the game would also be included.

Chess in the United States has become increasingly popular, writes Brother Cruse, "due to the frequency of international tourna-

ments involving this country."

Union members who are interested in helping to form such a club, or who are interested in more details about how it would function, should get in touch with Harold Cruse.

Governor, Mayor Proclaim May For 'Senior Citizens'

By proclamation of Governor Averell Harriman and Mayor Robert F. Wagner, the month of May has been designated "Senior Citizens Month".

Primary purpose of SCM is to impress upon New Yorkers awareness of the present as well as past contributions of our Senior Citizens to our cultural and economic life. Many of these men and women continue to be active in the home, in science and industry, and in the spiritual and political life of our city. The past contributions of persons in this age group have had a profound effect in every field of action.

President Sam Kovenetsky said "Local 1-S had hoped to join in this testimonial to our Senior Citizens, but was unable to make plans because of the strike.

"Our own Senior Citizens gave ample proof of the kind of contributions they are able to make for the well-being of all. Their experience, ability and devotion served as shining examples and inspiration to all around them."

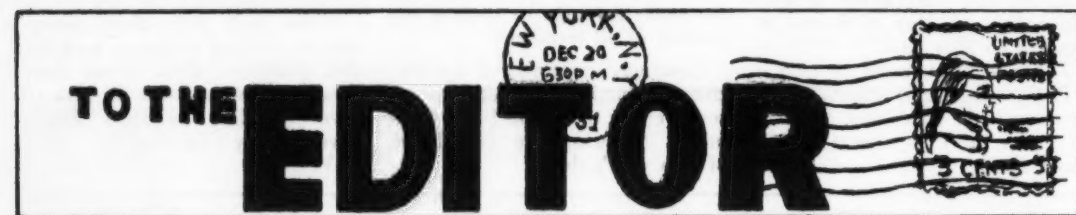
HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence (including maternity and military leave) for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office.

You are covered by The Health Plan only until the end of the month in which you leave the store, and have another 30 days within which to arrange for your direct payments.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan enters the hospital you MUST call on the Union office for claim forms immediately on entering or as soon as possible thereafter.

Protect yourself — protect your family — protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time.



CORRECTION

I read with interest the column indicating that Donovan (Congressman from the 18th CD, Ed) was ousted for my candidacy. I appreciate very much the support of your union and other unions who share with me a desire to improve the conditions of the working man. However, I would like to bring to your attention an error in your column which indicated that primary day was scheduled for June 6th. Primary day is on Tuesday, June 5, 1956 between the hours of 3:00 and 10:00 P.M. Apart from this correction, I was very pleased to read your comments.

Yours very truly,
Alfred E. Santangelo

Editor's Note: State Senator Santangelo has received the Democratic Party designation in the 18th Congressional District, but is being contested in the primary election by three other candidates, including incumbent, anti-labor Representative Donovan. Manpower is needed to help bring the people the facts and to get out the vote.

CONGRATULATIONS

My heartiest congratulations on the victory which has just been won. It was indeed a job well done!

Even up here in Rome and Utica New York the people through the medium of television and newspapers were aware of the strike and are now aware of your victory. I don't doubt that the success of Local 1-S has put some new thoughts in the minds

of the people we are now in the process of organizing.

Again, my congratulations, and although I was not there in body, believe me I was there in spirit!

Anthony Gentile,
Int'l Rep., RWDSU, AFL-CIO

TURNABOUT

Turnabout is fair play, and your editor—after being on the receiving end of countless "thanks"—now wishes to express his own.

The gifts, the cards, the phone calls and the interested questions about my health were all most deeply appreciated.

My deepest regret is that I was not able to stand shoulder to shoulder with you in your days of great glory. Your magnificent display of unity and strength was inspiring and healing to me—even tucked away in a hospital bed.

It's wonderful to be back and to know people such as you.

Fraternally,
Dick Pastor

WELL DONE

To the Officers, Executive Board and Shop Stewards—Thanks a million for a job well done—for the countless hours and sleepless nights you spent fighting for all of us.

I appreciate very deeply the gains you won for us, both financially and in better working conditions.

I'd like, also, to pay a tribute to the wonderful spirit and fighting strength of the Local 1-S membership.

It's great to be a member of such a union.

Yours truly,
Jessie S. Shelly, CDM

VOLUNTARILY

April 6, 1956

I hereby voluntarily contribute one day overtime pay, \$15, for the treasury, at this crucial time, to be used as deemed fit by Union officials.

Anne Lipitz, CMT

PLEASANT HOURS

I wish to thank you for your very nice gift. I have had many pleasant hours reading and enjoying it very much.

Being a Saturday-Only worker, I did not think I was important enough to be remembered, but your kind consideration showed me differently. Thanks again.

Yours sincerely,
Reynould C. Nickerson

HEARTFELT

May I express my most heartfelt thanks to our Union.

At the time my husband suffered a heart attack, I was able to use all the moral and financial help possible.

Of course, God and the doctors helped us no end. Thanks to them, also.

My co-workers were very concerned and showed such interest it helped me through many a bad day.

Now may I offer a very special thanks to Local 1-S and all its workers.

Your support in all respects has been wonderful. The understanding and immediate action on your part has been such that mere words cannot describe it.

Thank you again and may you all be blessed.

Sincerely,
Jean Henig, F10

PERSONALS

FOR SALE—Two adjoining plots in Linden Hills Cemetery. Choice location. If interested, please call LO 8-9211.

FOR SALE—Colonial maple dresser, three large drawers and matching mirror. Suitable children room or elsewhere. \$15. Phone ST 4-6455 evenings.

Personal ads for the Local 1-S NEWS must be received at the Union office by the 1st or 15th day of each month. Ads received on the 1st will appear in the issue dated the 15th. Those received on the 15th will appear in the issue dated the 1st of the following month. This is offered as a service to members of Local 1-S and there is no charge for personal ads.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

OF
ALL

try."
e in
such
sted
t wo
ch w

nyon
For
ens

Govern
for Re
of Me
ior Cl

CM is
kers
as w
ur Sen
and ec
men
ive in
industr
politi
contri
nge grow
effect

tsky said
o join
enior Cl
to mai
ike.

izens gav
d of con
e to mai
Their c
devoti
mples an
d them."

ry. Cho

d match
ST 4-64

t the Uni
on the h
ne 15th w
is is offe
for perso

e doctor,
he Union
Group—
available

ink CALL